



VERSION SHOWING MARKED CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION

On page 1, please insert as the 1st paragraph with:

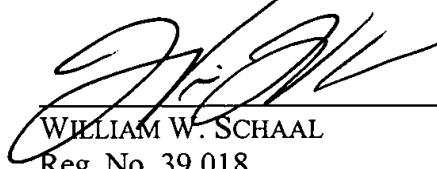
This application claims benefit of priority on U.S. Patent Application No. 60/243,223
filed October 25, 2000.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants contend that the pending application has an effective filing date of August 28, 2001. Examination of the pending claims at Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



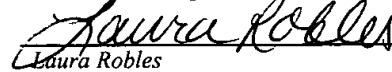
WILLIAM W. SCHAAL
Reg. No. 39,018

Dated: September 19, 2001

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(714) 557-3800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: September 19, 2001.


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09/19/01
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